

REMARKS

Status of the Claims

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the instant application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Upon entry of the amendment, claims 1-17 and 19-40 will be pending in the application. Of these, claims 1, 24, 34 and 36 are independent. Claims 1, 24, 34 and 36 are sought to be amended. Claim 18 is sought to be cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants believe that these changes introduce no new matter. Entry and consideration of this amendment are respectfully requested.

Objection to the Drawings

Claim 18 has been cancelled. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the objection to the drawings be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-6, 9-29 and 32-40 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,961,941 (hereinafter referred to as “Nelson”). Claims 1, 7, 8, 30 and 31 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,496,847 (hereinafter referred to as “Bugnion”). Claim 18 has been cancelled. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection with respect to the pending claims for at least the following reason.

Independent claims 1, 24, 34 and 36 have been amended to include a similar feature of:

listing the device VM as an available hardware device during VM bootstrap initialization; and allowing one or more other VMs to use the device VM as the emulated hardware device.

Support for this amendment can be found in the specification at least in paragraph [0029].

Nelson and Bugnion, either taken alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest this feature.

For at least this reason, amended independent claims 1, 24, 34 and 36 and their respective dependent claims are distinguishable from Nelson and Bugnion, either taken alone or in combination. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejections to these claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) be reconsidered and withdrawn.

INVITATION FOR A TELEPHONE INTERVIEW

The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned, Molly A. McCall, at (703) 633-0931 if there remains any issue with allowance of the case.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that all of the stated grounds of objections and rejections have been properly traversed accommodated or rendered moot. Thus, Applicants believe that the present application is in condition for allowance, and as such, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding objections and rejections, and allowance of this application.

Respectfully submitted,
Intel Corporation

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